

**From:** Robert Myers  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/7/01 9:51am  
**Subject:** The Microsoft Settlement

Sir or Madam:

Not being an anti-trust lawyer, I have no understanding of the legal intricacies of the Microsoft case. Being something of a power user, I can see what Microsoft has been up to and I can tell you that the proposed settlement will do nothing to address it.

The software that keeps Linux (or any other alternative operating system) on its knees is Microsoft Office, which has become the lingua franca of business, which uses proprietary file formats, and which has tentacles deep into the operating system. The penalties proposed by Judge Jackson and now being explored by the EEC would address these issues.

Years of taxpayer money will have been spent on litigation will have accomplished nothing. As usual, the only ones to benefit will be the lawyers. Microsoft? It will take the costs of this litigation out of the pockets of its captive customers.

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